

THE
ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1925,

UPON THE

Health and Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Sunderland Rural District.

G. W. SCOTT, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

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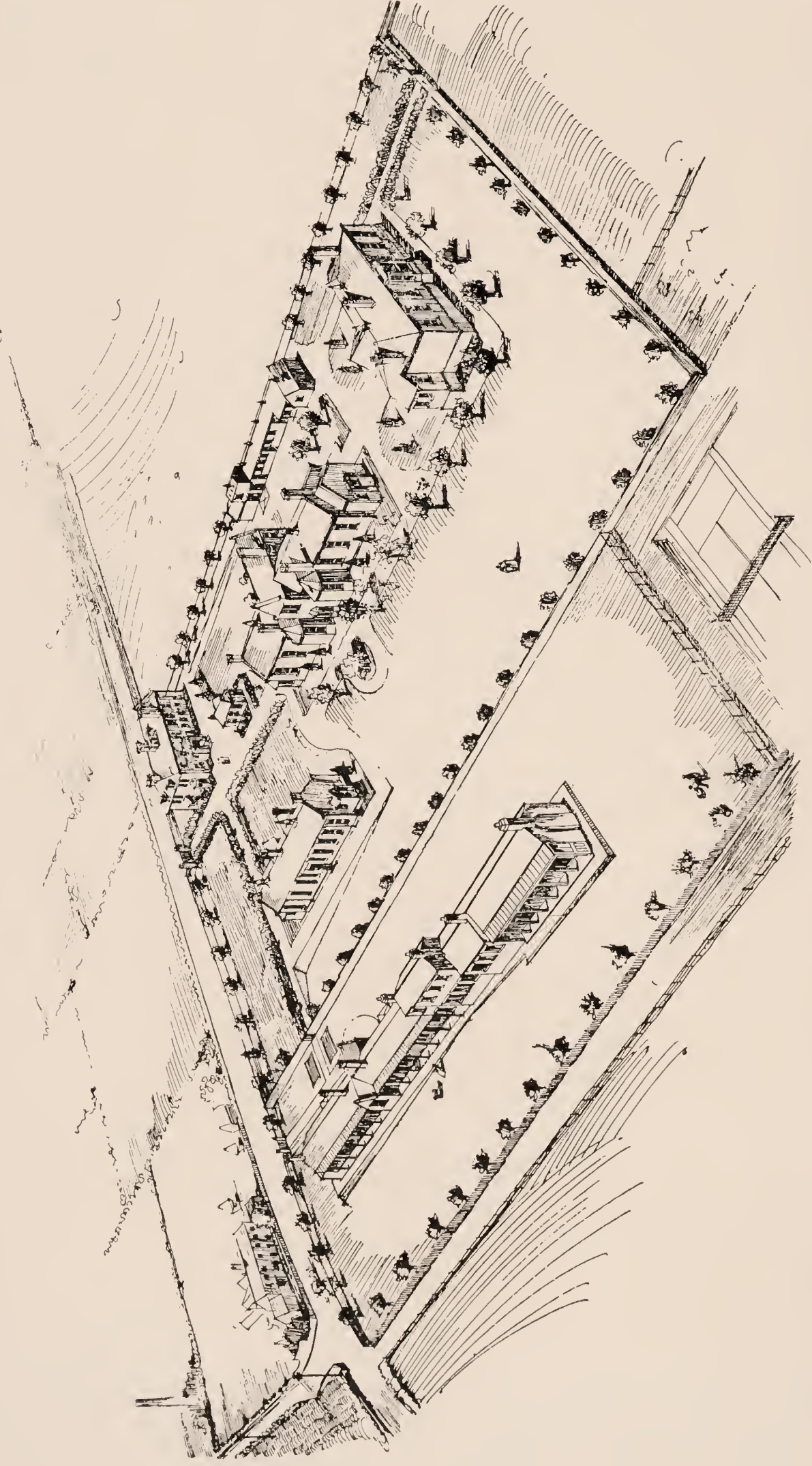


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SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT ISOLATION HOSPITAL AND SANATORIUM.



HYLTON ROAD,
FORD,
NR. SUNDERLAND.

G. T. BROWN, F.R.I.B.A.,
ARCHITECT.

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Vice-Chairman :

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Chairman of Hospital Committee : COUNCILLOR A. W. BYERS.

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

17 JOHN STREET,
SUNDERLAND.

OFFICIALS.

Medical Officer of Health : G. W. SCOTT, M.D., D.P.H.,

Sanitary Inspector, &c. : ERNEST HITCHEN, Cert. San. Inst., R.P.C.

Assistant Inspector : J. T. CUTHBERTSON.

Clerk to Health Department : Miss C. V. CORY.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

Medical Superintendent : DR. G. W. SCOTT.

Matron : Miss I. C. THOMPSON.

SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RURAL
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SUNDERLAND.

GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit for your consideration my Tenth Annual Report, that for the year 1925, on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the Rural District of Sunderland.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. W. SCOTT,

Medical Officer of Health.

April, 1926.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Division of the District.

The Sunderland Rural District is comprised of six Parishes, viz.: Bishopwearmouth Without, Ford, Fulwell, Hylton, Ryhope, and Tunstall.

Area and Population.

The Area of the District is 6,980 acres.

The Population of the whole District at the census in 1921, was 30,569; and at the census taken in 1911, was 29,007.

The estimated population for the year 1925, is 31,730.

TABLE A.

Giving the acreage, the Population of the District at the census in 1921 and the estimated Population, mid-year, 1925.

PARISH.	Acreage	Census of 1921.	Estimated Population mid-year 1925.
Bishopwearmouth Without...	460	336	349
Ford	1029	3300	3425
Fulwell	649	5864	6085
Hylton	2593	3186	3306
Ryhope	1441	11651	12097
Tunstall	808	6232	6468
Whole District	6980	30569	31730

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

Geological Formation.

The geology of your district is uniform in character. The surface is capped by boulder clay of varying depths. Below this is a thick mass of magnesian limestone, or dolomite, which, in places crops out to the surface. This geological formation is fairly uniform, excepting for a pocket of sand here and there of so small dimensions as to have little effect on ground formation. The bed of the river Wear, which runs through the district, is fringed by alluvial deposits, due to the action of the river itself. The limestone contains the underground reservoirs from which the district obtains its water supply. The ground is undulating, and becomes hilly in the vicinity of Tunstall and Ford.

Occupations.

About three-fifths of the male population in your district are engaged in the work of coal mining, the remaining portion being employees in the work of shipbuilding, forge works, iron foundries, paper making, lime quarries, farming and agricultural work.

Industries.

Particulars as to staple industries of the District

BISHOPWEARMOUTH

	WITHOUT	...	None.
FORD	...	...	Paper Making. Forge Works. Patent Chain Works. Iron Foundries and Engineering.
FULWELL	...	...	Lime Works.
HYLTON	...	...	Coal Mining. Shipbuilding.
RYHOPE	...	...	Coal Mining.
TUNSTALL	...	...	Coal Mining.

Particulars of any anticipated industrial development.

FORD	...	...	Shipbuilding. Lime Quarrying.
------	-----	-----	----------------------------------

Amount of Poor Law Relief.

For the year ending 31st December, 1925.

						£	s.	d.
Bishopwearmouth Without	...	...						Nil.
Ford	...	...	...	...	...	823	9	0
Fulwell	...	...	...	...	...	477	2	7
Hylton	...	...	...	...	...	128	7	2
Ryhope	...	...	...	...	...	3198	10	10
Tunstall	...	...	...	...	...	836	8	0

Rateable Value.

The Rateable Value of the whole district is £142,804.

Sum represented by penny rate, £595.

TABLE I.
SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT.
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1925.
AND THE FOUR PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Population Estimated to Middle of each Year	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District		
		Un- corrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate	of Non- residents registered in the District	of Resi- dents not registered in the District	Under 1 Year of age	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1921	30,569	916	916	29'9	365	11'9	nil	59	119	129'9
1922	30,726	784	784	25'5	372	12'1	nil	81	87	110'9
1923	30,883	769	769	24'9	356	11'5	nil	66	65	84
1924	31,540	751	751	23'8	342	10'8	nil	63	79	105
1925	31,730	740	740	23'3	358	11'2	nil	71	71	95

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 6,980.

I.—Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District—
High Barnes Home.

II.—Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District—
Sunderland Poor Law Institution, Monkwearmouth and Southwick Hospital, Durham County
Asylum, Sedgelyfield ; Sunderland Children's Hospital, Sunderland Royal Infirmary.

III.—Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several
localities in the District—Sunderland Rural District Isolation Hospital, Ford.
The Poor Law Institution is not within the District.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth Rate.

During the year there were 740 births registered, as compared with 751 last year, the birth rate being 23·3 per thousand of the estimated population of the district. Twenty-six births were registered as illegitimate, as compared with eighteen for the year 1924.

TABLE B.

Showing the number of Births (Male and Female), and the Birth-rate for the four preceding years.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Birth-rate.
1921	469	447	29·9
1922	430	354	25·5
1923	436	333	24·9
1924	377	374	23·8
1925	405	335	23·3

TABLE C.

Birth-rate in each Parish.

Parish.	Males.	Females.	Birth-rate.
Bishopwearmouth Without	1	—	2·8
Ford	40	36	22·1
Fulwell	51	54	17·2
Hylton	45	32	23·2
Ryhope	169	142	25·7
Tunstall	99	71	26·2

Deaths.

The total number of deaths registered as having occurred within your district during the year 1925, was 358, comprising 197 males, and 161 females, which gives the annual mortality-rate of 11·2 per thousand of the population.

Seventy-one deaths of persons belonging to the district occurred outside the district. This increases the total number to 429, the corrected death-rate being 13·5 per thousand. Compared with the number of deaths registered during the year 1924, it shows an increase of 24.

TABLE D.

Number of Deaths, and the Death-rate of each Parish for the year 1925.

PARISH.	Number of Deaths.	Deaths outside of District but belonging to it.	Total.	Death-rate.
Bishopwearmouth Without ...	22	—	22	63·
Ford ...	38	9	47	13·7
Fulwell ...	54	14	68	11·1
Hylton ...	35	10	45	13·6
Ryhope ...	143	22	165	13·6
Tunstall ...	66	16	82	12·6
Whole District	358	71	429	13·5

Of the twenty-two deaths registered as having occurred in Bishopwearmouth Without, nineteen were of persons who died in the "High Barnes Home," which is an institution for aged persons, and is supervised by the "Little Sisters of the Poor."

In accordance with the instructions of the Registrar General, these deaths must be returned as belonging to your district. The following are the districts in which the persons resided before being admitted to the "High Barnes Home."

Blackhall	...	...	1	South Shields	...	2
Chester-le-Street	...	...	1	Stockton	...	1
Durham	...	...	1	Sunderland	...	5
Houghton	...	...	1	Usher Moor	...	1
Jarrow	...	...	1	West Hartlepool	...	1
Littleburn	...	...	1	Whitley Bay	...	1
Penshaw	...	...	1	Winning	...	1

TABLE E.

Age at which death occurred in each Parish.

Parish.	At Ages—Years.								Total
	Under 1	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 up- wards	
Bishopwear- mouth Without	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	18	22
Ford ...	7	2	3	5	6	8	5	11	47
Fulwell...	8	3	2	2	2	10	14	27	68
Hylton ...	16	2	2	6	3	2	7	7	45
Ryhope	26	17	8	9	3	20	39	43	165
Tunstall	14	8	2	5	10	9	11	23	82
Totals...	71	32	17	27	24	50	79	129	429

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Seventy-one deaths were registered of children under one year of age (37 males and 34 females). This gives an Infantile Mortality-rate of 95 per thousand births.

Infantile Mortality-rates for the past ten years.

Year.	Rate	Year	Rate
1916	104	1921	123
1917	118	1922	104
1918	106	1923	84
1919	106	1924	105
1920	90	1925	95

TABLE IV.
SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT.
INFANT MORTALITY.

1925. *Nett Deaths from stated causes at various
Ages under 1 year.*

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes—										
Certified	22	3	1	3	29	11	11	9	8	68
Uncertified	2				2			1		3
Common Infectious Diseases —										
Smallpox										
Chickenpox... ..										
Measles								2	1	3
Scarlet Fever										
Diphtheria and Croup										
Whooping Cough						1		3	1	5
Diarrhoeal Diseases —										
Diarrhoea									1	1
Enteritis						4	3	1	1	9
Tuberculosis Diseases —										
Tuberculous Meningitis						1				1
Abdominal Tuberculosis										
Other Tuberculous Diseases									1	1
Wasting Diseases —										
Congenital Malformations.	2				2	1		1		4
Premature Birth	14				14					14
Atrophy, Debility, ...	5	2		1	8	2				10
Marasmus						1	2	1		4
Other Causes —										
Atelectasis										
Injury at Birth										
Erysipelas										
Syphilis										
Rickets								1		1
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)							1			1
Convulsions		1			1		1			2
Gastritis				1	1				1	2
Laryngitis										
Bronchitis			1		1	1	3		1	6
Pneumonia (all forms)							1	1	1	3
Influenza										
Suffocation, overlaying										
Other causes	3			1	4					4
TOTALS...	24	3	1	3	31	11	11	10	8	71

Nett Births in the year—Legitimate 714 ; Illegitimate 26.

Nett Deaths in the year—Legitimate Infants 68 ; Illegitimate Infants 3

TABLE II.
SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, 1925.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH PARISH.							
	At all ages	AT AGES—YEARS.						Bishop- wearmouth	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total cases removed to Hospital
		Under 1 Year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65								
Smallpox ...	52	11	2	14	11	7	15	3		2					52
Chicken-pox ...	170		45	108	3	3					32	12	76	48	
Cholera ...															
Malaria ...															
Diphtheria (including Membranous group)	10			5	4	1				4			5	1	5
Erysipelas ...	22		1		1	3	13	4		2	2	2	10	6	
Scarlet Fever ...	53	1	13	32	5	2				5	11	2	26	9	35
Typhus Fever ...															
Enteric Fever ...															
Relapsing Fever ...															
Continued Fever ...															
Puerperal Fever ...	5				2	3				1		1		3	
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.															
Polio-myelitis ...	1		1										1		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	18	18									6	1	4	7	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	30		8	8	6	14	2			4	3		13	10	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	36			12	11	3	2			3	5	6	14	8	
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1					1					1				
Totals ...	398	30	70	179	43	37	32	7		21	60	24	149	144	92

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The following measures are taken in the Sunderland Rural District to check the spread of Infectious Diseases :—

1. Adoption of Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890.
2. Every case is immediately visited after notification and arrangements made to have the case removed to the Rural District Isolation Hospital at once if it is found that suitable isolation cannot be provided at home, either on account of want of room or a large family in the house. If isolated at home, verbal and printed instructions are given as to the best method of isolation and disinfectants supplied for use in the bedroom. The cases isolated at home are re-visited to see that proper isolation is carried out.
3. A complete history of the case is taken in writing at the time of the first visit, and all enquiries made as to probable source of infection such as contact cases, milk supply, and any other causes.
4. In every case where the patient is removed to Hospital the room and its contents are immediately disinfected, the bed and clothing being taken to the Hospital for that purpose.

Antitoxin is supplied free by the Rural District Council to all cases of Diphtheria, a supply being kept for the use of Practitioners in the District.

All patients to the Isolation Hospital are removed under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, the patients being in the charge of a trained nurse during course of removal.

A Motor Ambulance is used for the removal of the patient and the bedding.

Posters and handbills containing advice and instructions are distributed in your district when necessary.

During 1925, the number of deaths from Zymotic Diseases in your area was twenty-nine. This number is equivalent to a mortality-rate of 0·9 per thousand of the population, as compared with 0·3 for the year 1924.

TABLE F.
Distribution of Deaths from Zymotic Diseases in the various Parishes.

Diseases	Bishop- wearmouth Without.	Ford	Fulwell.	Hylton	Kyhope.	Tunstall.	Total.
Measles			3	5	6	3	17
Scarlet Fever			1				1
Whooping Cough			3	1	4		8
Diphtheria and Croup							
Typhus Fever							
Enteric Fever							
Diarrhœa		1			2		3
Totals		1	7	6	12	3	29
Zymotic Death-Rate		0·2	1·1	1·8	0·9	0·4	0·9

Diarrhœa.

Diarrhœa caused three deaths during the year, giving a mortality-rate of 0·09 per thousand of the population, as compared with 0·09 for the previous year.

Whooping Cough.

Eight deaths were registered as being due to this disease, which gives a mortality-rate of 0·2, as compared with 0·1 for the previous year.

Diphtheria.

During the twelve months, ten cases of Diphtheria were notified, compared with sixteen for the year 1924.

With regard to Diphtheria I have advised most of the Medical Practitioners in your area, that in the event of any suspicious case of Diphtheria arising, to not only take a swab from the throat for Bacteriological Examination, but at the same time give an injection of Diphtheria anti-toxin which is supplied to them from your Health Department free of cost. This undoubtedly saves very valuable time since by the time the result of the Bacteriological Examination has been received, the toxin in the body has been accumulating to a very alarming and dangerous degree, whereas if the anti-toxin is administered at once—no harm can be done if the patient is not suffering from Diphtheria—the poison is combated immediately, and consequently further intoxication does not take place, if the result of the examination of the swab plainly indicates the case to be an authenticated one of Diphtheria.

It is interesting and furthermore comforting to compare the position of this year with previous years regarding deaths, and no death from Diphtheria should take place if the Medical Practitioner be called in at once on the occasion of a sore throat. In my opinion, after many years of practice, where there is a temperature and signs of illness in a child the throat should be the first part of the body to be examined. It would of course be absurd to examine a throat if the child's temperature should be due to say a septic hand or affection of some other specific part of the body. I may say that hitherto I have not found it necessary to employ the Schick test for Diphtheria, or any artificial method of immunization.

The following table shows, for each parish, the number of cases notified, the attack-rate per thousand of the population, and the number of cases removed for treatment at the Hospital

Parish.	Cases Notified	Attack- rate per 1,000.	Deaths.	Cases Removed to Hospital
Bishopwearmouth Without ...				
Ford	4	1·1		1
Fulwell				
Hylton				
Ryhope	5	0·4		4
Tunstall	1	0·1		
Whole District ...	10	0·3		5

The following are the ages of persons notified as suffering from Diphtheria during 1925.

5 years and under	15 years	...	5
15	25	...	4
25	45	...	1

Scarlet Fever.

Fifty-three cases of Scarlet Fever were reported during the year, compared with forty-three for 1924. Of these, thirty-five cases were removed for treatment at your Hospital.

TABLE I.
Parishes affected and the ages of the Scarlet Fever cases reported.

Parish.	Under 1 year.	1-5.	5-15.	15-25.	25-65.	Total.
Bishopwearmouth Without						
Ford			4	1		5
Fulwell		2	7	1	1	11
Hylton		1	1			2
Ryhope	1	6	16	2	1	26
Tunstall		4	4	1		9
Whole District ...	1	13	32	5	2	53

TABLE J.

Shows the number of cases notified, the attack-rate, the number of deaths, the mortality-rate, and the number of cases removed to Hospital

PARISH.	Cases Notified	Attack rate per 1,000	Deaths.	Mortality Rate	Cases re- moved to Hospital
Bishopwearmouth Without					
Ford	5	1.4			3
Fulwell	11	1.8	1	0.1	9
Hylton	2	0.6			2
Ryhope	26	2.1			15
Tunstall	9	1.3			6
Whole District ...	53	1.6	1	0.03	35

Enteric Fever.

No case has been reported in your area.

Malaria.

No case has been reported in your area.

Poliomyelitis.

One case has been reported during the year, having occurred at Ryhope.

Erysipelas.

Twenty-two cases were notified during the year, as compared with twenty cases for 1924. The cases were distributed as follows:—Ford, 2; Fulwell, 2; Hylton, 2; Ryhope, 10; Tunstall, 6.

Ophthalmia. Neonatorum.

Eighteen notifications have been received during the year.

Pneumonia.

There have been one hundred and four notifications of this disease during the year, as compared with one hundred and fifteen for the year 1924.

Smallpox.

An outbreak of Smallpox unfortunately occurred in your Area at Silksworth on November 16th of this year. The diagnosis of the disease as Smallpox was authenticated by a Ministry of Health Inspector after having seen the cases.

All cases have been immediately isolated by being removed to Hospital at once, and contacts as far as possible vaccinated. All other precautionary measures have also been taken. There is no doubt, in my opinion, that in the near future the disease will soon be eradicated as far as your District is concerned.

The disease has been of an exceedingly mild type, and this type has apparently been prevalent all over England and more especially of late in the County of Durham. Fatal cases in this country, except in the case of complications, have been exceedingly rare, and I may say no fatal case has occurred in your Area. Unfortunately in your District anti-vaccinationists had to be contended with and this has made the task of fighting the disease somewhat difficult, but the cases have been kept down by constant watch and immediate isolation. The cases as I have said above have been of such a mild nature that the contacts have seemed to prefer developing the disease in preference to vaccination.

Alluding to vaccination I can see a great difficulty to the question, and it is in my mind as follows :—

This outbreak has apparently mostly affected adults, persons who have been vaccinated in infancy, and any Act of Parliament with regard to vaccination to counteract the disease, in my opinion, would have to include re-vaccination after a certain age.

The following analysis will illustrate my point of view on the subject with regard to the age of the individual affected by the disease.

Of the fifty-two cases of Smallpox removed to Hospital since the commencement of the outbreak, forty-three were between the age of ten years and sixty-five, so that it is plainly discernable that re-vaccination would have to be seriously taken into consideration in any Parliamentary Act, in the combating of Smallpox where vaccination was concerned.

EXAMINATION OF SPUTUM IN SUSPECTED CASES OF
CONSUMPTION.

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Totals
Tubercle Bacilli found ...	2	1	5	3	11
Tubercle Bacilli not found ...	13	12	8	12	45
Totals ...	15	13	13	15	56

EXAMINATION OF SWABS FOR
DIPHtheria.

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Totals
Diphtheria Bacilli found ...		1	1		2
Diphtheria Bacilli not found ...	4	3	4	2	13
Totals ...	4	4	5	2	15

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

There were thirty cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year, compared with twenty-eight for the previous year. Thirty deaths were registered as being due to the disease.

TABLE K.
Showing the ages and the distribution of the cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified.

Parish.	Ages—Years.							Total.
	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and over	
Bishopwearmouth Without ...								
Ford			2		2			4
Fulwell					3			3
Hylton								
Ryhope			3	2	7	1		13
Tunstall			3	4	2	1		10
Totals ...			8	6	14	2		30

TABLE L.
Showing the ages at which death occurred from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in each Parish.

Parish.	Ages—Years.							Total.
	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and upwards	
Bishopwearmouth Without ...								
Ford			1	4	5			10
Fulwell					3			3
Hylton				1	1			2
Ryhope			2	1	8			11
Tunstall			1		2	1		4
Totals ...			4	6	19	1		30

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

TABLE M.

Showing the Parishes from which the cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified, and the ages of the patients..

Parish.	Ages—Years.							Total.
	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and over	
Bishopwearmouth Without ...								
Ford		1		1	1			3
Fulwell			2		1	2		5
Hylton		1	2	3				6
Ryhope		4	4	5	1			14
Tunstall... ..		2	4	2				8
Totals ...		8	12	11	3	2		36

TABLE N.

Showing the distribution of the various cases of Non-Pulmonary Lesions in the several Parishes.

Parish.	LESIONS.					
	Abdominal.	Bones and Joints.	Glands.	Meninges.	Skin.	Totals.
Bishopwearmouth Without ...						
Ford			2	1		3
Fulwell	1	1	3			5
Hylton	1	4	1			6
Ryhope	3	4	5	2		14
Tunstall... ..	1	2	2	1	2	8
Totals ...	6	11	13	4	2	36

Deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

11 deaths = Mortality-rate 0·3.

TABLE O.

Age at which death occurred, and the Parish in which deceased persons resided.

Parish.	Ages—Years							Total.
	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and over	
Bishopwearmouth Without ...								
Ford	1							1
Fulwell							1	1
Hylton	1		1					2
Ryhope		2	1	1				4
Tunstall			2	1				3
Totals	2	2	4	2			1	11

Fatal Accidents and Suicides.

Fifteen inquests were held during the year, 1925, compared with fourteen for the previous year.

Parish		Drowning	Fatal Accidents	Suicide	Man-slaughter	Total
Bishopwearmouth Without ...						
Ford			1			1
Fulwell		1	1	2		4
Hylton		1	2			3
Ryhope		1	7			8
Tunstall		1				1
Totals		4	11	2		17

TABLE III.
 SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT.
 CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING
 THE YEAR 1925.

CAUSES OF DEATH.				DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO THE WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.									
				All Ages. 2	Under 1 year. 3	1 and under 2. 4	2 and under 5. 5	5 and under 15. 6	15 and under 25. 7	25 and under 45. 8	45 and under 65. 9	65 and upwards. 10	
All Causes	{	Certified	...	406	68	32	15	24	23	49	75	120	
		Uncertified	...	23	3		2	3	1	1	4	9	
Enteric Fever				...									
Smallpox				...									
Measles				...	17	3	10	2	2				
Scarlet Fever				...	1		1						
Whooping Cough				...	8	5	3						
Diphtheria and Croup				...									
Influenza				...	11		1	1	1	3	4	1	
Erysipelas				...									
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)				30				4	6	19	1		
Tuberculous Meningitis				...	5	1	1	1	2				
Other Tuberculous Diseases				...	6	1		2	2			1	
Cancer, malignant disease				...	28					3	15	10	
Rheumatic Fever				...	3					1	2		
Meningitis				...	3	1	1		1				
Organic Heart Disease				...	33				1	4	8	20	
Bronchitis				...	38	6		1	2	1	7	21	
Pneumonia (all forms)				...	33	3	9	6	3	1	3	1	
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs				...	1		1						
Diarrhoea and Enteritis				...	15	10	4	1					
Appendicitis and Typhlitis				...	4				4				
Cirrhosis of Liver				...	1						1		
Alcoholism				...									
Nephritis and Bright's Disease				...	7					1	4	2	
Puerperal Fever				...	3				2	1			
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition..				4					3		1		
Congenital Debility and Mal- formation, including Pre- mature Birth...				36	36								
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide				15	1	1	1	3	3	2	2	2	
Suicide				...	2						2		
Other Defined Diseases				...	121	4		6	5	2	11	22	71
Venereal Disease				...									
Pleurisy				...	4					1	3		
Totals				..	429	71	32	17	27	24	50	79	129

INFECTIOUS DISEASES ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Accommodation = 67 beds.

Scarlet Fever Pavilion ...	...	...	16
Typhoid Fever Pavilion	...	...	10
Diphtheria Pavilion ...	...	...	14
Tuberculosis Pavilion ...	...	...	25
Observation Ward ...	...	...	2

Forty cases have been admitted into Hospital from your district during the year 1925 ; the following table shows the number of admissions of each disease.

Disease.	Patients in Hospital on 31st Dec., 1924.	Patients Admitted During 1925.	Patients in the Hospital on 31st Dec., 1925
Scarlet Fever ...	2	35	3
Diphtheria ...		5	
Typhoid Fever...			
Totals ...	2	40	3

Table showing the ages of the Patients admitted into Hospital

Disease.	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-65	Total.
Scarlet Fever ...		7	25	2	1	35
Diphtheria ...			3	1	1	5
Typhoid Fever ...						
Totals ...		7	28	3	2	40

Tuberculosis Pavilion.

The accommodation for Tuberculosis consists of 25 beds. There were 25 patients under treatment on 1st January, 1925, and during the year 79 have been admitted.

The following table shows the ages of the patients admitted :—

15 years and under 25 years	...	...	39
25 „ „ 45 „	...	...	40
Total			79

Tuberculosis.

The Durham County Council has provided Sanatoria in different parts of the North for the treatment of this disease, and the health of the inhabitants in your district suffering from Tubercular disease is supervised by the above Council.

The Ministry of Health in November, 1920, instructed Local Authorities to make provision for the treatment of Tuberculosis, other than insured persons, and under this scheme the County Council is now providing for the accommodation of the following :—

1. Observation cases.
2. Early cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
3. Surgical cases.
4. Advanced cases which are incurable and a source of infection to other people.

The Council provides for the treatment of the disease in both Adult and Child life.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The residents in the Sunderland Rural District can receive medical and surgical treatment at the following Infirmaries and Hospitals :—

FEVER CASES.—Sunderland Rural District Isolation Hospital.

SMALLPOX.—Whiteleas. This is an Hospital for the treatment of this disease used conjointly by your district, and contains 40 beds.

GENERAL DISEASES, URGENT CASES AND ACCIDENTS,

The Royal Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 500 beds, and out-patient department.

The Royal Infirmary, Sunderland, 236 beds, and out-patient department.

The Children's Hospital, Sunderland, 66 beds, and out-patient department.

Monkwearmouth and Southwick Hospital, 53 beds, and out-patient department.

The Eye Infirmary, Sunderland, 33 beds, and out-patient department.

Heatherdene Convalescent Home.

The miners who compose the greater part of the population in your district, pay a weekly subscription to the above Infirmaries and Hospitals. Other residents, such as those working at the Ford Paper Works and living at Hylton, and those working at the Hendon Gas Works and living at Grangetown, likewise subscribe to the various Institutions.

Sunderland Union Hospital, with mental wards attached, is not in your district, but receives sick and infirm persons from it.

The "High Barnes Home" is in your District and receives aged people both from within and outside your district.

Durham County Mental Hospital, Sedgefield.

Notification of Births Act, and Midwives Act.

These Acts are administered by the Durham County Council.

Venereal Diseases Act.

This Act is administered by the Durham County Council.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

The working of this Act is carried out under the direction of the Durham County Council.

Bacteriological Examinnations.

The Bacteriological Examination of Drinking Water to test for the purity of same, of Milk for Tubercle Bacilli, of Swabs for Diphtheria, of Blood from patients suspected to be suffering from Enteric Fever (Grubler Widal Reaction), of Sputum in suspected cases of Tuberculosis of the lungs, are supervised and under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health of the County of Durham.

Child Welfare Centres.

I should be pleased to see a Child Welfare Centre in all the Districts in your Area, as I think a great amount of knowledge can be given to Mothers, especially young Mothers, with regard to the welfare of the child. The Centres are entirely under the control of the Durham County Council and of course I appreciate the fact that it would entail a great amount of expense to have centres in all Districts, but I hope that in the near future Centres will be opened.

Meat Inspection.

There are twelve Licensed Slaughter-houses in the district, which are regularly inspected, 534 separate inspections having been made during the year. 167 inspections were made of carcasses of pigs killed in places other than Licensed Slaughter-houses, also 50 inspections have been made of Fish, Fruit, and Provision Shops.

Five carcasses of cows found to be affected with Tuberculosis were condemned as unfit for human food, and afterwards destroyed.

ABATTOIRS.

Adequate examination of slaughtered animals is practically impossible under the prevailing conditions existing with regard to Slaughter Houses, of course I can understand the difficulty of even suggesting an Abattoir or Public Slaughter House in your Area, as your Districts are so scattered and widely apart. It would be impracticable under the circumstances, although in my mind, this arrangement is the only safeguard in the examination of slaughtered animals.

THE HUMANE KILLER.

I hope, if at any time support be required to further the use of the Humane Killer in the slaughter of animals, your Council will give that support. I may say that one of the largest slaughtering houses in your Area, viz.: that belonging to the Ryhope and Silksworth Co-operative Society, uses this instrument with great success and humanity and without any depreciation in the quality of the flesh of the animal, as has sometimes been suggested by opponents of this method of slaughter.

It is sometimes most pitiable and depressing to watch a beginner killing a beast by the present method, and to compare this method with the Humane Killer, which results in painless and instantaneous death, is in my mind out of the question.

		IN 1920.	IN JANUARY, 1925.	IN DECEMBER, 1925.
Registered	...	12	—	—
Licensed	...	—	12	12
TOTAL	...	12	12	12

Milk Supply.

Regular inspections have been made as to the sanitary condition of the various cowsheds, dairies and milkshops, in your district during the past year. Three notices were served upon the Farmers to remedy defects found to exist during the course of our inspection, on the whole, the cowsheds, dairies, and milkshops, were found to be satisfactory.

There are 40 Wholesale Traders and Producers of milk, the number of dairy cows kept being 569. There are 48 Retail Purveyors of milk.

Water Supply.

The water supplied to the district is of an exceptionally high degree of purity, and is one of the finest drinking waters in the country.

Chemical analysis shows that the water practically does not vary from year to year, whilst bacteriologically it is of the highest quality.

Frequent and systematic examinations of the water from all the wells and reservoirs are made to ensure that the water actually supplied is free from any harmful matters.

With very few exceptions the inhabitants in the Sunderland Rural District obtain their water supply from Sunderland and South Shields Water Company's mains. This water is pumped from wells in the Magnesian Lime Stone at a depth of from 200 to 500 feet.

The following are the wells from which each Parish is supplied :—

RYHOPE.—Ryhope, Dalton and North Dalton Wells.

TUNSTALL.—Seaton, Thorpe, Shotton, Burdon and North Dalton Wells.

FORD.—Seaton, Thorpe, Shotton, Burdon, Stonygate, and North Dalton Wells.

HYLTON (*a*)—(Hylton Village), Seaton, Thorpe, Shotton, Burdon, Stonygate, and North Dalton Wells.

HYLTON (*b*)—(Castletown Village), Seaton, Thorpe, Shotton, Burdon, Stonygate, and North Dalton Wells.

FULWELL.—Ryhope, Humbledon Hill, Fulwell and Cleadon Wells.

The wells are lined out to a considerable distance, so as to exclude surface drainage.

Analytical results obtained in the Company's Laboratories, averaging the figures obtained from the several wells, are as follows :—

Total Solids	...	...	...	47·56
Lime (Ca.O.)	...	...	...	12·01
Magnesia (Mg.O.)	...	...	...	6·83
Sulphuric Anhydride (S.O. ₃)	...	...	...	4·49
Carbonic Anhydride (C.O. ₂)	...	...	...	13·71
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	0·0001
Albumenoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0·0004
Chlorine	...	...	...	4·41
Hardness	...	...	...	26·7 degrees.

Results are parts per 100,000. Hardness is in degrees (Clark).

Sewers and Sewage Disposal.

The Sewers and Sewage Disposal of your area is in a good condition generally, as owing to the whole of the district being situate near the sea coast, and the land being at a good elevation above sea level, no great difficulty is ever experienced in obtaining effectual sewerage of any part of it by gravitation. Throughout the district, the sewers invariably are laid under the back streets between two rows or blocks of houses. In most of the Parishes the streets are laid in long straight lines, and such being the case the individual sewers run the whole length and connect with the main sewers, the latter being continued to the outfall at the sea coast, or are conducted into the river Wear, which river is tidal for many miles past your district. Manholes are provided along the line of sewers as a means of access for inspection, also at convenient points upright flushing pipes connected to the sewers are provided in order to afford a ready means of flushing. The ventilation of the sewers in many of the Parishes is by means of steel pipe ventilators carried to a height of about twenty-five feet, this method of sewer ventilation is of great value, as it prevents any nuisance from sewer gases, which is often created by the old method of ventilating the sewers at street surface level.

The Parish of Bishopwearmouth Without is sewered by means of pipe sewers of sufficient diameter which empty into the Corporation sewer at the boundary line.

At Ford, four separate sewers are provided for the village, the outfalls of each being direct into the river.

The method of sewerage at Fulwell is by two pipe sewers, one taking a North-east direction, and the other to the South-east; both outfalls being at the sea coast below low water level.

The Hylton district has two systems of sewers provided. The most important of the sewers takes all the drainage from the village of Castletown, and the other takes the drainage of most of the houses at North Hylton. Both sewers empty direct into the tidal river at convenient points.

The Ryhope system of sewers is carried out in three sections, the largest of them empties itself into the sea to the East of Ryhope Village, another takes the drainage of part of the Ryhope Colliery Houses and Grangetown, which has its outfall at Salterfens, while a portion of the houses at Grangetown are drained into the sewer of the Corporation.

The sewerage of Tunstall Parish is by the sewers running North according to the natural fall of the land, and then joining the main sewer running direct East and connecting with the large main sewer belonging to Ryhope Parish, having its outfall at the sea coast.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises	Number of	
	Inspections.	Written Notices.
Factories	7	—
Workshops	73	—
Workplaces	—	—
Total ...	80	—

Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied.
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>		
Want of cleanliness		
Want of ventilation		
Overcrowding		
Want of drainage of floors		
Other nuisances		
Sanitary Accommodation { Insufficient		
Unsuitable or defective		
Total ...	Nil.	Nil.

Registered Workshops.

Retail Bakehouses	26
Blacksmiths	2
Tailors	4
Tripe Preparer	1
Joiners and Masons	2
Boot Repairers	17
Shipbreaker	1
Milliners	2
Clay Pipe Maker	1
Dressmakers	6
Butcher	1
Engineers	1
Builders and Joiners	6
Motor Garage and Repair Shop	1
Brickworks	1
Saw Mill	1
Total ...	73

HOUSING.

I think the Sunderland Rural District Council ought to be congratulated for the zeal and energy with which it has undertaken the Housing question, its action in this matter will, in my opinion, compare favourably with any District in the North of England.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR :—

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	267
-----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

1. UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

INSPECTION—

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	830
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 ...	34
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil.
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	110

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	102
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A —PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 28 OF THE HOUSING TOWN PLANNING, &C., ACT, 1919.

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	29
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :—	
(a) by owners	29
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.

3. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intentions to close ... Nil.

B.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 131
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—
- (a) by owners ... 124
- (b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... Nil.

C.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 17 AND 18 OF THE HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, &C., ACT, 1909.

- (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ... Nil.
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... Nil.
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ... Nil.
- (4) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... Nil.
- (5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... Nil.

G. W. SCOTT,

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

*Summary of Notices served by the Sanitary Inspector under the
Public Health Acts during the year, 1925.*

PARTICULARS.	Number of Informal written Notices by Inspector.	Number of Statutory Notices by Authority.	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice.
Dwelling-houses (Foul Conditions ...	22		22
and Schools ... { Structural Defects...	77		72
... { Overcrowding ...			
Lodging Houses... ..			
Dairies and Milkshops	1		1
Cowsheds... ..	13		13
Bakehouses			
Slaughterhouses	1		1
Ash-pits and Privies	83	15	92
Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	45		45
Waterclosets	14		12
Defective Yard Paving	20		18
House { Defective Traps ...	2		2
Drainage ... { No Dis-connection ...			
... { Blocked Drains ...	25		23
Water Supply	7		7
Pigsties	6		6
Animals Improperly Kept			
Offensive Trades			
Smoke Nuisances	1		1
Defective Roof Spouting	26		24
Dampness of House Walls	6		5
Defective Roofs	24		22
Bedrooms not properly Ventilated ...	21		18
Defective Rain-water Pipes	6		6
Other Nuisances... ..	27		25
Totals	427	15	415

Twenty-seven notices not complied with on December 31st, 1925.

Removal of House Refuse.

The work of removal of house refuse during the past twelve months has been satisfactorily carried out, only twelve complaints were made of nuisances arising from the neglect in the work of cleansing the ash-pits, and in no case was it found to be of a serious nature ; each complaint was immediately investigated, and steps taken to have the necessary work attended to as early as possible. Regular inspections are carried out by your Health Officers, who endeavour, as far as possible, to see that all ash-pits are emptied at least once each week. Disinfecting lime is supplied free to all your contractors for the purpose of disinfecting the receptacles after each cleansing. The total number of ash-pits or ash-bins in the district is 6,150, of these your Council cleanse 1,637 by direct labour, having your own horses and carts. The number of ash-pits cleansed by contracts made with farmers and others is 4,476. The work of the removal of house refuse in the Parish of Bishopwearmouth Without has been done by a neighbouring farmer, the owners of the houses in that part of your district having made private arrangements with him for the carrying out of the work, but now your Council are arranging for the work to be done by contract. In this parish there are thirty-seven ash-pits.

The following table shows the number of Water-closets, Ash-closets, and Privy Ash-pits in the various Parishes of the Sunderland Rural District.

Parish.	Water-closets.	Ash-closets.	Privy Ashpits.	Total.
Bishopwearmouth Without	32	1	4	37
Ford	287	239	69	595
Fulwell	569	768	10	1347
Hylton	93	552	34	679
Ryhope	553	1488	180	2221
Tunstall	175	1094	2	1271
Totals	1709	4142	299	6150

Drainage and Sanitary Work.

During the past year the whole of the drainage of new buildings, and drains that have been taken up and relaid in connection with existing buildings, have been subjected to the hydraulic test; also all soil pipes, ventilating shafts, and sanitary fittings have been tested with the smoke testing apparatus. A total number of 904 separate tests have been applied, and the following table shows the amount of drainage work that has been carried out in your district, all of which has been carefully examined and passed as satisfactory by your Health Officers.

MONTH.			Water-closets	Length of Drainage in feet	Baths.	Gullies.	Interception Traps.
January	...	...	28	804	11	35	4
February	...	...	30	602	16	32	2
March	...	...	35	673	34	51	1
April	...	...	20	412	17	14	3
May	...	...	19	801	10	39	32
June	...	...	16	367	15	27	8
July	...	...	14	1192	5	13	1
August	...	...	12	308	10	26	6
September	...	...	28	701	17	51	14
October	...	...	55	826	40	44	20
November	...	...	29	400	4	8	6
December	...	...	12	364	20	18	3
Totals			298	7450	199	358	100

Inspection of Districts.

All the Parishes in your district have been systematically inspected, each Parish being visited at least once each week throughout the year. In all cases where nuisances or defective conditions were found to exist, verbal or written notice was given to the person or persons responsible for the abatement of the nuisance or the remedy of the defects. In all houses where cases of Infectious Disease had occurred, a thorough examination of all the sanitary fittings, drains, &c., was made, and, if any defects were found, immediate steps were taken to have the premises placed in a sanitary condition. The following table shows the

number of separate inspections made during the year, and the work involved:—

Inspection of Dwelling-houses and Premises	...	1051
Letters and Informal Notices issued	...	642
Statutory Notices by order of Authority	...	15
Removals of cases of Infectious Disease to Hospital		92
Number of visits to cases of Infectious Disease	...	412

Water, Food and Drugs.

Samples of water taken for analysis	...	0
Samples of water condemned as unfit for use	...	0
Seizures of unwholesome food	...	5
Convictions for exposing or selling unwholesome food	...	0
Samples of food and drugs taken for analysis	...	0
Samples of food and drugs found adulterated	...	0

Precautions against Infectious Disease.

Lots of infected bedding stoved or destroyed	...	137
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	80
Schools disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	4
Prosecutions for exposure of infected persons	...	0
Convictions for exposure of infected persons	...	0

List of Infected Articles disinfected by the "Thresh" Steam Disinfecting Apparatus during 1925.

Quilts	...	80	Mattresses	...	23
Bolsters...	...	132	Sheets	...	178
Pillows	...	151	Blankets	...	14
Rugs	...	10	Beds	...	84
Cushions	...	82	Clothing	...	305
Bolster and Pillow-cases	116		Sundries	...	63

General.

Number of new houses erected during the year ...	267
Number of such houses occupied during the year	237
Ash-pit privies converted into ash-closets... ..	—
Ash-pit privies converted into water-closets ...	20
Ash-closets converted into water-closets	13
Total number of water-closets in the district ...	1709
Total number of ash-closets in the district ...	4142
Total number of ash-pit privies in the district ...	299

ERNEST HITCHEN,

Sanitary Inspector.

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Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Division of District			...	...	...	...	5
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